

Beaverton Police Department

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Chief Geoff Spalding

NEWS RELEASE



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Distracted Pedestrian Struck by Max Train

On November 16, 2015 at 9:13 a.m. Beaverton Police responded to the Elmonica Max station on a report of a pedestrian being struck by a Max train.

When officers arrived they found 23 year old Andrea Laing partially trapped under the train at the platform. Officers also saw that Laing suffered a complete amputation of a leg from the impact with the train.

Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R) were able to remove Laing from underneath the train. Laing was immediately transported to a locale area hospital for treatment of her injuries. The injuries Laing sustained are not life threating but most likely life altering.

From witness statements it appears Laing was distracted as she was on foot Northbound on NW 170th crossing the East and Westbound Max tracks. Witness stated that Laing had a hoodie on and looked to be wearing earbuds as she crossed the tracks as the train was approaching. Witness also stated that they could hear the Max train's horn as it approached and struck Laing.

This was a tragic incident for Laing, her family, the train operator, passengers and witnesses. This is a tragic reminder of the importance of paying attention anytime you are near the Max or any train tracks. Whenever approaching train tracks you should have your head up scanning the track for any approaching or departing trains. You should not be wearing anything that obstructs your ability to see and hear what is going on around you.

Please take the time and steps needed to look and listen when near any Max or train tracks.

